In an Instant - Sam's POV

by Kate Davis

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>
I crept along a few metres behind him. We were moving through the dense forest of this planet
>and had been for hours, yet we'd hardly covered any distance from the Stargate. I was
watching the Colonel's back, waiting for the moment his arm moved to motion me to cover the
>six or so metres between us. There.
>I moved forward carefully - so carefully - until I reached his side. He crouched down in the
scrub and whispered to me "I had no idea it was this far away. What have these people got
>that we are risking our butts to get? Why didn't they just bring it to us?"
>"Sir - I explained earlier..."
>"Refresh my memory Major, while we wait for the others."
>"The Nox said the inhabitants of this planet possess a Goa'uld device, capable of
instantaneously freezing the cells of the human body with no entry or exit points visible on
>the skin. It fires numerous desensitising particles of laser light which penetrate the skin
without damaging it, freezing the cells

and killing the person immediately once enough cells
>have been crippled."
>"I see." I couldn't help rolling my eyes a little before he continued, "Why are we creeping
up on them?"
>
"Because, Colonel, they have gotten so much delight from this device that they activate it
>left and right to show their power. If we just stroll up and ask them for the technology
they'll use it on us. If we can prove to them that we are worthy of the device by passing
>through their safety precautions, booby traps and security measures, they may just give it
to us. That's how they work according to the Nox."
>
"Well let's just hope the Nox are right. This is hellishly dangerous."
>
"It'll be worth it."
>
"Nothing could be worth this."
>
"Sir I believe that if this technology could be harnessed, minimised and used on cancer
>patients early in their diagnosis, it could simply seal the disease into the affected cells
and they could recover - providing not too many cells had been invaded."
>
"A cure for cancer?"
>
"Yes Colonel."
>
"Well then alright."
>He watched Daniel and Teal'c approaching before he crept forwards again, another six or so
metres. He waved me forward again.
>I heard the ground click as I put my left foot down and swivelled on it to see what I had
trodden on. The ground was suddenly moving, taking me into the air with it. I felt my body
>go completely numb but not before the searing heat ripped through me. Twisting, turning,
upside down, twisting, turning, then horizontal. Is this what its like to fly?
>
CRACK.
>
In that position I found the ground again. The moment of impact sent me blundering into
>unconsciousness. As I tried to draw myself out of it the real extent of the pain hit with an
unrelenting force I could sense myself mumbling about the depth and severity of it. Finally I
>got my eyes open and I saw the Colonel's face - his creased brow and his deep brown eyes full of worry, searching my face.
In an instant I knew. His eyes gave it away. I gave him a little smile and whispered
>"Who would have thought, eh Sir? That I'd be the first one to go."
>I could feel the intense pain building up inside me and knew I was going to cry, and shut my
eyes in an effort to prevent it.

>
"Carter! Carter! Hold on, you're going to make it!" The Colonel cried "Don't give in, fight
>it!"
>For him I found the strength to pull my eyelids apart again. When I did his eyes showed
immense relief.
>"Sir there was one thing. Something I always wanted you to know," I spoke through the pain.
>"Major don't talk this way, you're going to be fine", he said in an unusual quivery tone of
voice I'd never heard him use before.

>
I watched his eyes go wet with sorrow, and felt the fight die within me. The pain and the
>darkness began to close in.

>"Well, then, just in case. In different circumstances I think I would have acted on my
feelings. But then in different circumstances, I may never have fallen in love with you,

>Jack."
I let my eyes close gently, savouring the final thought that maybe - just maybe - he had
>felt the same.
>
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